

Claim Amendments

This listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claim 1-2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) A pipe joint comprising a male first pipe portion, a female second pipe portion, a compression gland securable to the female second pipe portion, and a restraining gasket, said gasket further comprising:

- a) a ~~compressible~~ deformable body having ~~a spigot facing surface, a recess seat facing surface, and a gland facing surface~~; and
- b) a locking member, ~~said member having a tooth and a back portion~~ at least partially embedded within the ~~compressible~~ deformable body, wherein at least a portion of the ~~tooth~~ locking segment is positioned to engage the first pipe portion,

wherein said locking member is adapted to adopt a position in which

- (i) the locking member bites into, ~~a secured relationship with~~ the first pipe portion and the second pipe portion upon compression of a the gland against said gland-facing surface; and ~~wherein further~~
- (ii) ~~said locking member is adapted to non-compressibly resist~~ movement of said first pipe portion relative to said gland in a direction outward of the second pipe portion by transferring a first portion of an extractive force to said gland and transferring a second portion of such force directly to an interior surface of the second pipe portion, which surface is disposed substantially parallel to the axis of the second pipe portion, which first portion and second portion are each of a magnitude less than the magnitude of the extractive force.

Claims 4 - 10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A pipe joint as in Claim 2, 3, wherein said gasket further comprising comprises a plurality of density regions, wherein said regions are adapted to influence the movement of said locking member.

Claims 13 - 16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (New) A deformable restraining gasket for securely joining a male first pipe portion to a female second pipe portion, the latter having a bell and a tightenable compression gland, the gasket placeable in snug engagement with the male first pipe portion between the bell above the gasket and the compression gland to the rear of the gasket, wherein the gasket has a locking segment configured so that the locking segment engages the first male pipe portion and forms a single angle, which is acute in the extraction direction, between the male first pipe portion and a lower surface of the locking segment, and so that other portions of the locking segment simultaneously engage the bell and the gland at points not adjacent the male first pipe portion.

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Drawings Amendment

Applicant respectfully requests that the revisions to the drawings accepted by the Examiner in the Advisory Action dated February 24, 2004 be entered and considered a part of this submission. Applicant has attached a copy of those revisions in an appendix hereto.